

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 154131
ORIGIN EB-08

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TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 154131

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, SN

SUBJECT:TEXTILES:US/SINGAPORE TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 88421, SINGAPORE 2080

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED WITH WONG KWOK-PUN AT SINGAPORE
EMBASSY HERE IN WASHINGTON GOS PROPOSED REVISIONS OF DRAFT
TEXTILE AGREEMENT. HE PLANS TO PASS OUR COMMENTS ON TO HIS
GOVERNMENT AND WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO PURSUE RESOLUTION OF
OUTSTANDING ISSUES WITH WONG HONG KING OF TRADE DEPARTMENT
ASAP. THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE OUR POINT BY POINT
RESPONSE TO GOS PROPOSED REVISIONS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 154131

2. WE WOULD AGREE TO GOS PROPOSAL OF DELETION OF WORDS
"GROUP OF" IN PARAGRAPH 3(B) AS LONG AS WORDING IS ADJUSTED
FOR CLEARER MEANING AS FOLLOWS "... THE CATEGORIES BELOW
ARE MERGED AS INDICATED AND TREATED AS SINGLE CATEGORIES
AND SUBCATEGORIES, WITH SPECIFIC LIMITS ..."

3. WE CANNOT ACCEPT USE OF THE CONSULTATION PARAGRAPH FROM THE UNSIGNED INTERIM ARRANGEMENT IN THE NEW 5 YEAR AGREEMENT AS THE GOS PROPOSES. WE WOULD SUGGEST INSTEAD USING THE STANDARD CONSULTATION PARAGRAPH (I.E., THAT USED IN OUR 1975 BILATERAL AGREEMENT) SUBSTITUTING THE NEW

CATEGORY NUMBERS AS NECESSARY, AS WAS AGREED UPON DURING THE SINGAPORE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. WE WOULD ACCEPT THE GOS PROPOSAL TO USE THE CONTROL PARAGRAPH FROM THE 1975 BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR THE NEW FIVE YEAR AGREEMENT AS LONG AS WE HAVE GOS CONFIRMATION THAT IT CLEARLY UNDERSTANDS THAT WE HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE CONTROLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREED LIMITS. THIS COULD BE DONE BY EXCHANGE OF LETTERS.

5. WE PREFER TO RETAIN IN PARAGRAPH 19 THE FINAL WORDS, "FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING LEVELS FOR THESE CATEGORIES." PLEASE ASSURE THE GOS THAT ESTABLISHING LIMITS FOR COTTON SUIT CATEGORIES IS NOT DESIGNED TO CHANGE SINGAPORE'S ACCESS TO THE US MARKET FOR THESE PRODUCTS. MOREOVER, SUCH LIMITS WOULD NOT EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF THE AGREEMENT TO ADDITIONAL ITEMS BUT MERELY CHANGE THE CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN ITEMS ALREADY COVERED. WE WOULD CREATE COTTON SUIT CATEGORIES SOLELY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL AND STATISTICAL REASONS IN SUCH A WAY
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PAGE 03 STATE 154131

AS TO PARALLEL THE SUIT CATEGORIES NOW EXISTING FOR BOTH WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBER PRODUCTS. PARAGRAPH 19 AS IT APPEARS IN THE DRAFT SINGAPORE AGREEMENT IS A STANDARD PARAGRAPH IN OUR NEW AGREEMENTS INCLUDING THOSE WITH KOREA AND TAIWAN.

6. WE WOULD AGREE TO GOS SUGGESTION THAT PARAGRAPH 21 AND 22 BE COMBINED IN ONE PARAGRAPH AS IT WAS IN THE 1975 BILATERAL AGREEMENT USING THAT AGREEMENT'S TEXT. NEWSOM

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